

Application No.: 10/762721  
Docket No.: SS2910USCNT1

Page 2

**Amendments to Claims**

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-75 (cancelled).

76. (Currently Amended) A thermally bonded nonwoven fabric comprising multiple nonwoven layers of hard yarn meltspun polyolefin fibers constituted of a single polymer, and at least one nonwoven polyolefin layer comprising fibers having cross-sectional areas of less than about  $75 \mu\text{m}^2$ , and wherein at least one hard yarn meltspun nonwoven layer has a repellent fluorocarbon finish, said fabric having a basis weight between about 13-125  $\text{g/m}^2$ , a grab tensile strength in both the machine- and cross-directions at least about  $1 \text{ N}/(\text{g/m}^2)$ , normalized for basis weight, and a combination of Frazier permeability at least about 10 and up to about  $30 \text{ m}^3/\text{min-m}^2$  and hydrostatic head between about 75 and 99 cm.

77. (Canceled).

78. (Canceled).

79. (Currently Amended) A thermally bonded nonwoven fabric comprising multiple nonwoven layers of hard yarn meltspun polyolefin fibers constituted of a single polymer, and at least one nonwoven polyolefin layer comprising fibers having cross-sectional areas of less than about  $75 \mu\text{m}^2$ , and wherein at least one hard yarn meltspun nonwoven layer has a repellent fluorocarbon finish, said fabric having a basis weight between about 13-125  $\text{g/m}^2$ , a grab tensile strength in both the machine- and cross-directions at least about  $1 \text{ N}/(\text{g/m}^2)$ , normalized for basis weight, and a combination of Frazier permeability at least about 15 and up to about  $30 \text{ m}^3/\text{min-m}^2$  and hydrostatic head between about 75 and 99 cm.

80. (Canceled).

81. (Currently Amended) The thermally bonded nonwoven fabric of claim 76 or 79, wherein said two nonwoven layers of hard yarn meltspun polyolefin spunbond fibers are bonded to opposite sides of a nonwoven layer of meltblown polyolefin fibers having cross-sectional areas of less than about  $75 \mu\text{m}^2$ .

82. (Canceled).

Application No.: 10/762721  
Docket No.: SS2910USCNT1

Page 3

83. (Currently Amended) A garment comprising a thermally bonded nonwoven fabric having multiple nonwoven layers of hard yarn meltspun polyolefin fibers constituted of a single polymer, and at least one nonwoven polyolefin layer comprising fibers having cross-sectional areas of less than about  $75 \mu\text{m}^2$ , and wherein at least one hard yarn meltspun nonwoven layer has a repellent fluorocarbon finish, said fabric having a basis weight between about 13-125  $\text{g/m}^2$ , a grab tensile strength in both the machine- and cross-directions at least about 1  $\text{N}/(\text{g/m}^2)$ , normalized for basis weight, and a combination of Frazier permeability at least about 10 and up to about 30  $\text{m}^3/\text{min-m}^2$  and hydrostatic head between about 75 and 99 cm.

84. (Canceled).

85. (Canceled).

86. (Currently Amended) A garment comprising a thermally bonded nonwoven fabric having multiple nonwoven layers of hard yarn meltspun polyolefin fibers constituted of a single polymer, and at least one nonwoven polyolefin layer comprising fibers having cross-sectional areas of less than about  $75 \mu\text{m}^2$ , and wherein at least one hard yarn meltspun nonwoven layer has a repellent fluorocarbon finish, said fabric having a basis weight between about 13-125  $\text{g/m}^2$ , a grab tensile strength in both the machine- and cross-directions at least about 1  $\text{N}/(\text{g/m}^2)$ , normalized for basis weight, and a combination of Frazier permeability at least about 15 and up to about 30  $\text{m}^3/\text{min-m}^2$  and hydrostatic head between about 75 and 99 cm.

87. (Currently Amended) The garment of claim 83 or 86, wherein said two nonwoven layers of hard yarn meltspun polyolefin spunbond fibers are bonded to opposite sides of a nonwoven layer of meltblown polyolefin fibers having cross-sectional areas of less than about  $75 \mu\text{m}^2$ .

88. (Canceled).

89. (Previously Presented) The thermally bonded nonwoven fabric of claim 76 or 79, which has a hydrostatic head between about 80 and 99 cm.

90. (Canceled).

Application No.: 10/762721  
Docket No.: SS2910USCNT1

Page 4

91. (Previously Presented) The garment of claim 83 or 86, wherein said thermally bonded nonwoven fabric has a hydrostatic head between about 80 and 99 cm.

92. (Canceled).

93. (Previously Presented) The thermally bonded nonwoven fabric of claim 76 or 79, which has a cross sectional void percentage of at least about 85 percent.

94. (Previously Presented) The garment of claim 83 or 86, wherein the thermally bonded nonwoven fabric has a cross sectional void percentage of at least about 85 percent.

95. (Previously Presented) The thermally bonded nonwoven fabric of claim 76 or 79, wherein said at least one nonwoven polyolefin layer comprising fibers having cross-sectional areas of less than about  $75 \mu\text{m}^2$  comprises fibers having cross-sectional areas in the range from about 6 to about  $54 \mu\text{m}^2$ .

96. (Previously Presented) The garment of claim 83 or 86, wherein said at least one nonwoven polyolefin layer comprising fibers having cross-sectional areas of less than about  $75 \mu\text{m}^2$  comprises fibers having cross-sectional areas in the range from about 6 to about  $54 \mu\text{m}^2$ .